

THE
ACT OF INCORPORATION
AND
BY-LAWS
OF THE
Pennsylvania Training School
FOR
FEEBLE-MINDED CHILDREN.

PHILADELPHIA:
HENRY B. ASHMEAD, BOOK AND JOB PRINTER,
GEORGE STREET ABOVE ELEVENTH.
1857.

OFFICERS.

President.

THE RIGHT REV. ALONZO POTTER, D.D.

Vice-Presidents.

FOR THREE YEARS.

ISAAC COLLINS,
J. P. CROZER.

FOR TWO YEARS.

MATTHIAS W. BALDWIN,
JOSEPH HARRISON, JR.

FOR ONE YEAR.

HON. GEORGE M. STROUD,
JAMES C. HAND.

Directors.

FOR THREE YEARS.

Henry Hartshorne, M. D.,
Alfred L. Elwyn, M. D.,
John Horton,
Henry Lewis, Jr.

FOR TWO YEARS.

Philip S. Justice,
Wistar Morris,
James E. Rhoads, M. D.,
Robert P. Smith.

FOR ONE YEAR.

S. Morris Waln,
Horatio C. Wood,
Edward S. Simmons,
Stephen S. Price.

Treasurer.

Alexander Fullerton,

Secretary.

Franklin Taylor.

COMMITTEES FOR THE YEAR 1857.

Household Committee.

John Horton,
Philip S. Justice,

Isaac Collins,

Wistar Morris,
Edward S. Simmons.

Visiting Committees.

APRIL.—Isaac Collins, S. Morris Waln, Robert P. Smith.

MAY.—S. Morris Waln, Robert P. Smith, Wistar Morris.

JUNE.—Robert P. Smith, Wistar Morris, J. P. Crozer.

JULY.—Wistar Morris, J. P. Crozer, Dr. Henry Hartshorne.

AUGUST.—J. P. Crozer, Dr. Henry Hartshorne, Horatio C. Wood.

SEPTEMBER.—Dr. Henry Hartshorne, Horatio C. Wood, Edward S. Simmons.

OCTOBER.—Horatio C. Wood, Edward S. Simmons, Stephen S. Price.

NOVEMBER.—Edward S. Simmons, Stephen S. Price, Dr. James E. Rhoads.

DECEMBER.—Stephen S. Price, Dr. James E. Rhodes, Hon. George M. Stroud.

JANUARY.—Dr. James E. Rhodes, Hon. George M. Stroud, Dr. A. L. Elwyn.

Female Visitors.

Miss Margaret Morris, Germantown,

Mrs. Isaac Pugh, “

Mrs. E. C. Kendall, “

Mrs. John S. Henry, “

Mrs. Joel Jones, No. 153 Walnut Street.

Mrs. Samuel Welsh, No. 262 Spruce Street.

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

WHEREAS, a number of the citizens of this Commonwealth have associated themselves together for the purpose of establishing a School for the mental, moral, and physical education of children of idiotic and feeble mind, and the better to carry their design into effect, have petitioned the Legislature to grant them a charter of incorporation: *Therefore,*

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That Alonzo Potter, John K. Kane, J. B. Richards, Matthias W. Baldwin, Jacob G. Morris, Isaac Collins, Alfred L. Elwyn, James Martin, Alexander Fullerton, and Franklin Taylor, and their associates and successors, be and they are hereby made a body politic and corporate in law, by the name and style of "The Pennsylvania Training School for Idiotic and Feeble-Minded Children," and that as such they shall have all the corporate rights and powers which are now by law vested in the Pennsylvania Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, so far as the same are now applicable, or are not by this Act modified.

SECTION 2. That the essential and only object of the said corporation shall be the mental, moral, and physical education of idiotic and feeble-minded children, and that the officers thereof, until otherwise directed by the By-Laws, shall be, a President, six Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and

twelve Directors, who shall conduct the business of the Corporation, five being a quorum, and that none of the officers of the Corporation, nor any of the said corporators, saving only the Secretary and the Treasurer, shall at any time receive any fee or reward for their services whatsoever.

SECTION 3. That the said Corporation shall meet for the enactment of By-Laws and the election of officers, at the Athænum building in the City of Philadelphia, on the first Monday of May next, at four o'clock in the afternoon, and that at the said election, the Vice-Presidents and Directors to be chosen shall be arranged in three equal classes of two Vice-Presidents and four Directors, and the said classes to serve respectively for one, two, and three years, and that the Corporation shall thereafter meet annually on the second Wednesday of February, at such hour and place as they may designate beforehand, then and there to transact all needful business, and furthermore to elect a President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, for one year, and two Vice-Presidents and four Directors for three years, and that at the meetings and elections of the said Corporation, whether stated or special, such of the members as shall attend thereat shall be a quorum: *Provided however*, That the Corporation shall not at any time be dissolved by reason of a failure to hold the annual meeting or to elect officers, but such meetings and elections may be held one calendar month thereafter, on ten days' public notice, and in the meantime the officers in place shall continue to act.

SECTION 4. That the terms and manner of admitting new members into said Corporation, the amount of contribution payable by the members thereof annually and for life, the manner of calling special meetings, and the duties of the officers of the same, whether herein named or hereafter to be provided for, shall be such as may be prescribed by the By-Laws.

SECTION 5. That the sum of ten thousand dollars be and the same is hereby appropriated towards the purchase of grounds

and the fitting up of a suitable building or buildings, for the uses of the said Corporation, to take effect when a like sum shall be subscribed by other responsible contributors, and a further sum of ten thousand dollars is hereby appropriated to said objects, to take effect when a further sum of ten thousand dollars shall be contributed by others as aforesaid, the said sums to be paid by the State Treasurer upon the warrants of the Governor, to be drawn for amounts equal to the aggregate payments made from time to time by such other contributors: *Provided*, That not more than ten thousand dollars shall be drawn from the treasury within one year after the passage of this Act.

SECTION 6. That when said institution shall have been organized, and buildings prepared for the reception of pupils, the Commonwealth will contribute annually the sum of two hundred dollars for each and every indigent pupil of this State, not exceeding twenty in number, who may be received into the institution of the said Corporation, and there maintained and instructed: *Provided*, That the pupils to be admitted under the provisions of this section shall be apportioned among the several counties of the Commonwealth as nearly as practicable, according to their representation in the House of Representatives, and provided further that no pupil shall be taught and maintained at the expense of the Commonwealth for a term exceeding five years.

W. P. SCHELL,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

THO. CARSON,

Speaker of the Senate.

APPROVED, the seventh day of April, A. D., one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three.

WM. BIGLER.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

PENNSYLVANIA, 88:



I do hereby certify that the foregoing and annexed is a true and correct copy of the original Act of the General Assembly, entitled "An Act to incorporate the Pennsylvania Training School for Idiotic and Feeble-Minded Children,"* as the same remains on file in this office.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Secretary's Office to be affixed, at Harrisburg, this seventh day of April, A. D., one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three.

E. S. GOODRICH,

Depy. Secretary of the Commonwealth.

* Application has been made to the Court of Common Pleas to alter the title, by omitting the words "Idiotic and."

BY-LAWS.

CHAPTER I.

CONTRIBUTORS.

SEC. 1. Any person who shall pay to the Treasurer the sum of Thirty Dollars, shall be a member for life ; and all persons who shall pay annually the sum of Five Dollars, shall be members while they continue to contribute that sum.

SEC. 2. The annual payments shall be due on the first of January, and shall be payable in advance.

CHAPTER II.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

SEC. 1. The Board shall meet statedly on the Tuesday immediately following their election, and on the first Tuesday of every month at 12 o'clock, unless otherwise ordered.

SEC. 2. Special meetings may be called on the requisition of three members of the Board, addressed to the Secretary.

SEC. 3. Five members shall be a quorum for the transaction of business.

SEC. 4. At stated meetings, the order of business shall be:—

1. Chair taken, and names of members present noted.
2. Records of the last stated, and subsequent meetings read.
3. Reports and minutes of Standing Committees, read and acted on.
4. Communications from Superintendent read and acted on.
5. Reports of Special Committees, read and acted on.
6. Unfinished business.
7. New business.

SEC. 5. At special meetings, the special matter shall be considered and acted on, before any other.

SEC. 6. The President, or in his absence, one of the senior Vice-Presidents attending, shall preside at the meetings of the Board: in their absence, a chairman shall be appointed for the occasion.

SEC. 7. The Treasurer and Secretary shall be *ex officio*, members of the Board.

SEC. 8. The Board of Directors may fill vacancies in its number by special appointments; and the persons so appointed shall continue in office until the next annual election.

CHAPTER III.

OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. The Governor of the Commonwealth shall be *ex officio*, the patron of the Institution, and shall when present, preside at the meetings of the Corporation.

SEC. 2. The *Secretary* shall take full minutes of the doings of the Board, and shall cause them to be fairly recorded in books kept for the purpose. He shall issue notices of all meet-

ings, and shall furnish the chairman of committees with information of their appointment and duties.

SEC. 3. The *Treasurer* shall receive all moneys of the Institution, and shall forthwith deposit the same in one of the banks of the city of Philadelphia. He shall keep regular books of account, presenting the several sources of income and departments of expenditure under distinct heads. He shall make investments under the orders of the Board of moneys belonging to the Institution. He shall have the eustody of the muniments of title and the evidences of investments, and other property. He shall have the eustody of the corporate seal, and affix it to such instruments as the Board shall direct. He shall present at each stated meeting of the Board, a summary of his receipts and disbursements during the preceeding month, accompanied by his bank book or other book of deposit; and at the first stated meeting in January, he shall present a full statement of his accounts for the year ending on the first day of January, together with an exhibit of the finances of the Institution.

CHAPTER IV.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

SECTION 1. There shall be annually appointed, at the first stated meeting of the Board, a Committee on the Household. A Visiting Committee and a Committee of Female Visitors.

COMMITTEE ON THE HOUSEHOLD.

SEC. 2. The *Committee on the Household* shall consist of five members, of whom two shall be a quorum. They shall have the general supervision of the domestic arrangements of the Institution, and shall see to the preservation of cleanliness,

comfort, health, and economy therein. They shall direct all necessary repairs to the buildings and furniture, &c., provided the same shall not exceed the sum of *one hundred dollars* in any one month over and above the ordinary and special appropriations. All purchases of supplies for the use of the household shall be made by or with their sanction; all accounts for these objects, the compensation of the Matron and Domestics, and the incidental expenses of the family, shall be audited by them, and reported to the Board at its next stated meeting, for payment; on their recommendation, the Board may from time to time make reasonable advances to the Superintendent, to meet the current wants of this department; his accounts for which shall be audited and reported in like manner. They shall meet at the Institution at least once in every month, and the minutes of their proceedings shall be submitted to the Board at its stated meetings.

VISITING COMMITTEE.

SEC. 3. The Visiting Committee shall consist of three members for each month, so arranged that each monthly committee shall comprise one new member. It shall be their duty to make at least monthly visits to the Institution; they shall inspect the order and discipline of the Institution, and advise with the Superintendent in relation thereto; all purchases for books, apparatus, instruments and other means and aids of instruction, shall be made by them or with their written sanction; and all accounts for the objects and expenses incidental thereto, shall be audited by them and reported to the Board at its next stated meeting. They shall also record the date of their official visit, with such observations as they may deem appropriate, in a book to be provided for the purpose and kept by the Superintendent.

FEMALE VISITORS.

SEC. 4. Six *Female Visitors* shall be appointed by the Board, at the same time with the Standing Committees of the

year. They shall be invited to visit the Institution frequently, to advise with the Superintendent and Matron on its domestic affairs, and to extend to the pupils the benefits of their kind notice and counsel.

COMMITTEE OF AUDIT AND INSPECTION.

SEC. 5. A *Committee of Audit and Inspection*, of three members, shall be appointed by the Board at the stated meeting in December. They shall carefully examine all the accounts of the Institution for the year preceding, and inspect the securities, certificates, and other evidences of property belonging thereto; and at the stated meeting in January, they shall present, under their joint signatures, a full and detailed report of the condition of the accounts, and an exhibit of the funds and property of the Institution, to be laid before the Corporators at their annual meeting.

CHAPTER V.

THE SUPERINTENDENT.

SECTION 1. The *Superintendent* shall be the chief executive officer of the Institution. He shall have the superintendence of the buildings and grounds, together with the furniture, fixtures, and stock under the direction of the appropriate committees.

SEC. 2. He shall be responsible to the Board for the proper care and management of the children, and for the general conduct of the household.

SEC. 3. He shall keep, or cause to be kept, a faithful account of the House expenses, and of the income derived from the children for their maintenance and instruction, which accounts, with other records of the Institution, shall at all times be open

for the examination of the appropriate committees; and in order that he may be properly assisted in the performance of his duties, he shall, with the concurrence of the appropriate committees, have the appointment and direction of all persons employed in the Institution, determine and prescribe their respective places and duties, and contract with them to perform the services required, on such conditions as may be deemed expedient, provided always, that the salaries of the subordinate officers and instructors be approved by the Board.

SEC. 4. He shall constantly see that all persons thus employed perform faithfully the duties required of them; and to this end, shall give such instructions as are necessary to enable them to do so.

SEC. 5. Purchases for the current use of the Institution and the establishments connected therewith, may be made by him with the concurrence of the appropriate committees, and all moneys received by him on account of the Institution shall be paid over to the Treasurer monthly.

SEC. 6. He shall inquire into the condition of the children daily, or as much oftener as it may be necessary, and shall direct such medical, moral and physical treatment, as may be best adapted to their relief.

SEC. 7. He shall cause to be kept a record of the name, sex, age, place of nativity, and residence, of each child, also, as far as can be ascertained, the dates and history and probable cause of its imbecility, the time when received, and when removed, and whether cured or improved; whether eloped or dead, and if dead from what cause; together with any other facts and circumstances in each case, useful or usual in the statistical records of such an Institution.

SEC. 8. He shall also keep a record of the medical and other treatment adopted, with a statement of its effects in each case deemed important.

SEC. 9. He shall receive and answer, or cause to be answered, all communications relating to the concerns of the Institution, and shall cause to be made a record of such correspondence as he may judge necessary.

SEC. 10. He shall report to each stated meeting of the Board the general condition of the inmates of the house, and such other facts and observations as he or the Board may deem proper.

SEC. 11. At the stated meeting of the Board in January, he shall present a tabular statement of the Institution for the year past, with full details from the records, and accompany it with a condensed report of other interesting facts and circumstances illustrating its condition, management and prospects.

SEC. 12. He shall, when requested, attend the meetings of the Directors, and of the Committees.

SEC. 13. He shall transmit the printed annual reports of the Board to the Legislatures of the States maintaining pupils in the Institution, to the parents or guardians of each pupil in the School and to the managers or officers of other similar Institutions.

CHAPTER VI.

OF THE PUPILS.

SECTION 1. The Superintendent, with the concurrence of the Visiting Committee, may admit such feeble-minded children between the ages of three and twelve years into the Institution, as in his judgment may be suitable applicants for its benefits, and agree upon the sums to be paid for the maintenance and education of the same. Applications on behalf of others shall be referred to the Board.

SEC. 2. The Parents or next friends of those in whose behalf applications are made for admission, shall make answers in writing to such questions as the Superintendent may prescribe. They shall, moreover, furnish the children with such proper clothing whilst in the Institution as shall be stipulated by the

Superintendent, and they shall, in all cases, be bound to receive the pupil back, when required, free of expense. The term of Instruction, unless otherwise agreed for, shall be understood to include five years.

SEC. 3. Pupils who misbehave after admonition, or who are found incapable of receiving instruction, may be discharged by the Directors.

CHAPTER VII.

OF THE PROPERTY OF THE INSTITUTION.

SECTION 1. No real estate, stock or security for money, shall be alienated, encumbered, or released, unless in pursuance of a special resolution of the Board of Directors, after notice in writing to all the members of the Board, and such alienation, encumbrance, or release, shall be then made by the Treasurer, under the seal of the Corporation, verified by the Secretary.

SEC. 2. No money shall be paid from the Treasury, except on Warrants, signed by the Presiding Officer and Secretary of a meeting of the Board, which Warrants, countersigned by the Treasurer, shall stand as the vouchers of the Bank, or other depository of the funds of the Institution.

CHAPTER VIII.

SECTION 1. These by-laws may be amended or repealed at the discretion of the Board of Directors; but motions to amend or repeal any of them shall lie on the table one month, and shall be acted on only at a stated meeting.

APPENDIX.

A N A C T

TO INCORPORATE AND ENDOW THE PENNSYLVANIA INSTITUTION FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB.

WHEREAS a number of citizens desirous to reclaim the deaf and dumb, of whom there are many in this Commonwealth, to the rank of their species, and render them useful members of society, have associated for these benevolent purposes, and have opened and supported by their voluntary contributions, an asylum and school in the city of Philadelphia, where the children of the rich for a moderate compensation, and of the poor gratuitously, laboring under the privation of the faculty of speech, are maintained and educated.

AND WHEREAS the persons so associated have prayed to be incorporated, and to receive from the legislature such pecuniary aid, as with the fund already raised, and the further donations that may be expected from the charitable, will be sufficient to continue and enlarge an institution so salutary to the afflicted, so beneficial to the community, and so honorable to the State.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That the members of "The Pennsylvania Institution for the Deaf and Dumb," and all who according to the constitution and by-laws shall become members thereof, be, and they are hereby declared to be a body politic and corporate, by the said name and style, to have perpetual succession, and be capable to take, hold, and enjoy lands, tenements, and hereditaments, to use a common seal, and to break, alter, or renew the same at pleasure: *Provided*, that the clear yearly value of the real

and personal estate by them held, shall not exceed thirty thousand dollars.

SECT. 2. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the fundamental laws and constitution by which the said institution shall be governed, shall be as follows : Constitution and fundamental laws of

“The Pennsylvania Institution for the Deaf and Dumb.”

ARTICLE I. The Institution shall be located in Philadelphia, and supported by the annual and life subscriptions of its members, by the donations and legacies of the charitable, by such aid as the legislature may be pleased to afford, and by the money to be received for the education of children, whose parents, guardians, or friends, are of ability to pay.

ART. II. The officers of the institution shall be a president, four vice-presidents, a treasurer, and recording secretary ; they shall be ex-officio members of the board of directors, and their duties shall be such as are implied by their titles, or shall be prescribed by the by-laws. And said officers shall not receive any fee or compensation for their services, in performing their several duties, either directly or indirectly, excepting the treasurer and secretary.

ART. III. There shall be a board of twenty-four directors, members of the institution, who shall annually at the meeting next succeeding their election, appoint one of their number to act as corresponding secretary ; their duties shall be such as shall be defined by the by-laws. There shall also be a committee of twelve ladies selected annually by the board of directors, at their first meeting, to aid in the management of the asylum, under such provisions as may from time to time be prescribed by the by-laws.

ART. IV. Any person shall be entitled to become a member by paying annually, or in gross, the sum which shall be required by the by-laws for annual or life subscription.

ART. V. The members of the institution shall meet annually on the first Wednesday in May, in the City of Philadelphia, (at such hour as the directors may prescribe,) for the election

of officers and directors, and the transaction of other business, and to receive the annual report of the directors. Adjourned and special meetings may be held as shall be provided by the by-laws.

ART. VI. The right of membership may be relinquished, and the resignation addressed in writing to the board of directors shall be accepted by them: *Provided*, the member shall have discharged all demands, due by him or her to the institution.

ART. VII. The funds of the institution shall be at the disposal and under the management of the board of directors, subject, however, so far as relates to that part derived from the life subscriptions, to such restrictions as may be imposed by the by-laws, and subject also to such restrictions as may accompany the grant of aid by the legislature. And it shall be the duty of the directors for the time being, to present to the speaker of the senate, and of the house of representatives, respectively, in the month of December annually, a statement of the funds and expenses of the institution, and of the number of children received and educated therein, during the year immediately preceding, and of the parts of the State whence they have come, distinguishing between those who have been supported, and educated gratuitously, and others.

ART. VIII. Indigent children, resident anywhere within the State, shall be received into the school and asylum, maintained and educated gratuitously, so far as the funds of the institution will admit: *Provided*, that when more children shall be offered for the benefit of this institution than can be received at any one time, the president and directors shall so apportion their number among the several counties of this Commonwealth, according to their representation, (when application shall be made,) that every county may equally receive the benefits of the same.

ART. IX. The number of officers and directors may be increased or diminished as convenience shall require, at any annual meeting of the members of the institution, notice of the intended alteration being previously given, and twenty mem-

bers, being a majority of the members present, consenting; and any general meeting shall be competent to make, alter, or repeal by-laws, rules, and regulations, twenty-one members being present at the same.

SECT. 3. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That if an election of the officers of the institution be not held at the time herein appointed, the corporation shall not for that cause be dissolved, but an election shall be held as soon after as may be, public notice thereof being given, and until such election the officers in place shall continue to act, and the officers now elected, viz.: The Right Rev. William White, D. D., President. Vice-Presidents—Robert Patterson, Horace Binney, Roberts Vaux, Dr. N. Chapman. Secretary—Henry J. Williams. Treasurer—John Bacon. Directors—William Meredith, Paul Beck, jr., Samuel B. Morris, John Vaughan, Robert Walsh, jr., William W. Fisher, Clement C. Biddle, Alexander Henry, Benjamin Tilghman, John Gratz, Philip F. Mayer, Caleb Cresson, James N. Barker, Dr. William Price, William McIlvaine, Thomas Cadwalader, Callender Irvine, Joseph Gratz, William J. Duane, Reuben Haines, Samuel Canby, jr., Samuel Archer, Dr. Franklin Bache, Samuel R. Wood, shall hold and exercise their respective offices until the election in May next, and until others are appointed.

SECT. 4. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That in order to aid the funds of the said asylum, the Governor is hereby authorized and required to draw his warrant on the State Treasurer, in favor of the president of said institution, for the sum of eight thousand dollars, immediately; and moreover, shall draw his warrant on the State Treasurer in favor of the said president, for the further sum of one hundred and sixty dollars, for every indigent pupil taught in said school, one-half to be paid at the expiration of the term of six months, and the remainder at the end of the year: *Provided*, that no one scholar shall be taught at the expense of the Commonwealth more than three years: *And provided*

also, that the sum so to be drawn from the Treasury for such tuition, shall in no one year exceed the sum of eight thousand dollars.

SECT. 5. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the fourth section of this act, so far as relates to the annuity from the Commonwealth, shall be and continue in force for the term of four years, from and after the first day of April next, and no longer.

Approved the eight day of February, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and twenty-one.

A further supplement to the Act entitled "An Act supplementary to the Act to incorporate and endow the Pennsylvania Institution for the Deaf and Dumb."

SECT. 2. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the time for making the report of the directors of the said institution to the legislature, shall be on or before the first Monday of February annually hereafter, and that so much of the seventh article of the "constitution and fundamental laws" of the said institution, as requires the same to be made in the month of December, be and the same is hereby repealed.

Approved the twentieth day of February, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and thirty-three.

The following extracts of cases are taken from reports of similar institutions both at home and abroad, and are presented as confirmatory evidence of the practicability of the work committed to our hands, and of the great success which has attended it, under judicious and liberal auspices.

"A boy who was for a long time speechless: nobody could make him utter a syllable, and it was supposed that he had no vocal powers whatever, yet he listened with evident delight to the music and singing of the other pupils, and one night he burst out singing one of the chants which had been used in the course of the day. The power of utterance had been carefully improved, and he could now speak very tolerably. Several had manifested considerable skill in particular operations, and many who in the first instance were apparently helpless and hopeless, were now engaged in duties connected with the Asylum, which, but for their help, persons must have been paid to perform."—*Asylum for Idiots, Colchester, England.*

"A very clever lad, now removed to Earlswood, who had made beautiful models of ships, was an excellent fencer, could glaze windows, &c., was on his reception at Essex Hall as sullen and apparently as helpless an idiot as he ever saw. He could scarcely utter an articulate sound, was disagreeable in temper, fond of solitude; but now they might place him at their own tables, and he would not disgrace them. When he (Mr. Sidney) had the honor, on the 3d of July last, to exhibit this boy's ship model to Prince Albert, he was asked if he meant to say that that beautiful model was made by a poor idiot? He assured his Royal Highness that such was the case; and that when he first knew him the boy could not tell the difference between a dog's tail and his head. (Laughter.) There were six mat makers, who earned between £70 and £80 a-year for the institution. One of these lads when admitted was in a most distressing condition, mentally and bodily, but was now a well-behaved, pleasing young man, and was earning between 12s. and 14s. a-week at mat making. They also had one rope-maker, 8 tailors, 4 gardeners, and 6 house assistants."—*Ibid.*

"Maria was received into the Institution of the Abenberg, at the age of seven and a half years. She was in a state of atrophy; her skin was cold, hung loose like a sack, and was covered with an eruption; she could not walk; her joints were soft, and unable to support her weight; she could not speak a word, but would make a howling noise for hours together; ate everything that came in her way; destroyed all that could be broken, and gave no attention to anything that passed before her; at times she would beat and even bite herself; during several months she never slept at night. After six months she was able to stand alone, and at the end of a year could walk very well; her voracious appetite is overcome, and she now eats properly; the nervous excitement is subdued; she is obedient and friendly; converses very well; plays with flowers and animals, calls them by name and enjoys the blessing of sleep of which she had long been deprived."—*Rep. of Com. on Idiocy, Conn.*

J. C., a girl of 15 years of age, has been under Dr. Wilber's care a little more than four years. When received, she was mischievous and vicious, very nervous, and could not speak distinctly. She could not be left alone

with other children, from a propensity to injure them. She knew some of her letters, but could not be taught to read or write by any ordinary method.

She now reads well, writes a handsome hand, is remarkably proficient in Geography and Grammar, and has made good progress in addition and subtraction. She sews very neatly, and is very capable as an assistant in household matters. Her nervousness is no longer troublesome, her waywardness has entirely disappeared. In respect to moral training, she seems more advanced than most of the other pupils. She manifests a remarkable familiarity with Bible History, and with the events in the life of our Saviour. When requested to repeat the Lord's Prayer, she did so with a reverence, and impressiveness, and an evident understanding of its petitions, which exhibited in a very favorable light, her intelligence and thoughtfulness; and as I listened to this once vicious and wayward idiot, thus uttering in our Saviour's own words, her petitions to the throne of heavenly grace, I was more deeply impressed than ever before, with the adaptation of that sublime prayer to every human want.—*Ibid.*

"A young man of 18 years of age, who from infancy, had been always peculiar and deficient in his mental manifestations, and was entirely dumb. From want of proper culture and direction of the vocal organs, he could make only the guttural sound of the trachea; did not move the lips when attempting to utter sounds; was extremely filthy and brutish in his habits, disobedient and sluggish in the extreme.

His physical health was perfect, his muscles were largely and well developed. His perception was good, and he understood what was said to him but could not apply his knowledge; his hearing was perfect. Having been left unrestrained from childhood, and having attained to an age when the evil habits he had acquired had become fixed, and his animal appetites being his only source of enjoyment, I received him with great reluctance, expecting that he would make very little improvement.

He has now been with me a little more than a year. It was nearly three months before I succeeded in inducing him to utter a correct vocal sound. I moulded his lips with my fingers; put blocks and rings of various sizes and shapes into his mouth; taught him general and special imitation; and finally succeeded in concentrating sufficient nervous energy on the muscles of the lips and vocal organs to enable him to master all the vowels, and by dint of perseverance, patience, and drilling, he finally acquired the ability to pronounce the consonants and many of their combinations. By a rigid course of discipline his filthy habits were overcome.

He now reads in Webb's First Reader, and is rapidly learning to speak the names of surrounding objects. His ideas of form, of color, and of numbers, are now very good, and he is acquiring a general knowledge of Geography, Arithmetic, and Natural Philosophy. He can write well from a copy, can draw very creditably and is apt at almost any kind of labor. No one would imagine that this well behaved young man, could have led such a mere animal life one year since. He will be capable, under proper superintendence, of being highly useful in any department of labor, and had he been under suitable training when young, he would have been, I think, entirely cured of all his deficiencies.—*Ibid.*

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